

Strengthening nuclear security implementation

subscribed by

Algeria, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Vietnam

Introduction

The participating States of the Nuclear Security Summit in recognizing their national and international responsibilities, have pledged to make every effort to achieve further progress with regard to the global nuclear security system, the role of the IAEA, security of nuclear materials and facilities and radioactive sources including during transportation, synergy between nuclear security and safety, combating illicit trafficking, nuclear forensics, nuclear security culture, information security and international cooperation.

Since nuclear security remains a national responsibility, it is incumbent upon each State to establish the appropriate legal framework, governance structure, and measures it sees fit to advance nuclear security.

International principles and guidelines can help States establish or improve their national nuclear security regime. The IAEA Nuclear Security Series publications contain objectives and essential elements of a State's nuclear security regime, along with recommendations and additional implementing guidance. The Nuclear Security Series document NSS20 is endorsed by the IAEA Board of Governors and reflects a broad international consensus.

The IAEA recommendation documents NSS13, NSS14 and NSS15 have been prepared by nuclear security experts from more than 40 member States. In addition, the IAEA Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources (Code of Conduct) provides non-binding international guidance for the lifecycle control of high-risk radioactive sources and 120 States to date have made a political commitment to follow its guidance.

The Initiative

The current and previous Summit hosts (NL, ROK, US) have launched a concrete initiative that allows States (hereafter referred to as "Subscribing States"), at their own discretion, to subscribe explicitly to the essential elements of a nuclear security regime and to commit to the effective and sustainable implementation of the principles therein.

Such commitment does not alter the non-binding status of the Nuclear Security Series documents. States may commit themselves voluntarily to implement the intent of the individual recommendations.

The proposed joint statement is attached to this paper. It contains a commitment to embed the objectives of the nuclear security fundamentals and the IAEA recommendations in national rules and regulations and to host peer reviews to ensure effective implementation. Furthermore, it contains actions for consideration by Subscribing States that would further ensure continuous improvement of the nuclear security regime. Although the listed actions are not chosen randomly, the list should not be considered to be limitative. States are encouraged to develop or assess new ideas to improve the nuclear security regimes or the global nuclear security architecture.

Aim

The aim of this initiative is to demonstrate progress made in improving nuclear security worldwide following the Nuclear Security Summit in The Hague in 2014. Public commitment to subscribe to the fundamentals of nuclear security and to commit to meet the intent of the recommendations contained in the IAEA Nuclear Security Series and the Code of Conduct should result in improved nuclear security. Such a commitment could also serve as a role model worldwide of excellent and transparent behaviour.

Joint Statement

The following States: Algeria, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Vietnam, aiming for an effective and sustainable nuclear security regime, commit themselves to:

1. **Subscribe to the fundamental principles** (“Nuclear Security Fundamentals”) set forth in the Nuclear Security Series NSS 20, on the Objective and Essential Elements of a State’s Nuclear Security Regime;
2. **Meet the intent of the recommendations** contained in the following documents and to realize or exceed these objectives including through the implementation and enhancement of national regulations and other government measures:
 - a) NSS13 (INFCIRC225/Rev.5): “Nuclear Security Recommendations on Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and Nuclear Facilities;
 - b) NSS14: “Nuclear Security Recommendations on Radioactive Material and Associated Facilities” and The Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources;
 - c) NSS15: “Nuclear Security Recommendations on Nuclear and Other Radioactive Material out of Regulatory Control;
3. **Continue to improve the effectiveness** of their nuclear security regimes and operators’ systems by
 - a) Conducting self-assessments;
 - b) Hosting peer reviews (e.g., IPPAS) periodically;
 - c) Acting upon the recommendations identified during these reviews;
4. **Ensure** that management and personnel with accountability for nuclear security are demonstrably competent;

Additionally, subscribing States intend to contribute to the continuous improvement of nuclear security through one or more of the following actions:

- Contribute to the development of IAEA nuclear security guidance documents;
- Provide technical support and assistance to other States through bilateral and multilateral cooperation;
- Maintain and continuously improve domestic or regional training activities, for instance through education, certification or qualification activities;
- Share good practices with other States through, for example, seminars, workshops, and table top / field exercises while respecting confidentiality;
- Promote information exchange while respecting confidentiality;
- Provide nuclear security experts for the conduct of IAEA *International Nuclear Security Advisory Service (INSServ)*, and *International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS)* missions;
- Develop and enhance cyber security measures concerning nuclear facilities;
- Continue to take into account nuclear security at all stages in the life cycle of nuclear facilities;
- Maintain effective emergency and contingency preparedness, response and mitigation capabilities; in a manner that addresses both nuclear security and safety;
- Make financial or in-kind contributions to the IAEA Nuclear Security Fund;
- Promote research and development on nuclear security technologies and disseminating results consistent with their non-proliferation commitments and intellectual property rules;
- Promote nuclear security culture for management and personnel involved with nuclear security;
- Support or participate in the development of World Institute for Nuclear Security best practice guides and training activities;
- Improve cooperation with nearby States to improve international and regional nuclear security.